

Message Text

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ACTION OES-09

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TAGS: TECH, ENRG, JA
SUBJECT: VISIT TO OSAKA AND NAGOYA FUSION LABORATORIES;
U.S.-JAPAN COOPERATION ON FUSION RESEARCH

1. J.E. HAYES (INR/STA) AND DR. MURRAY KAVANAGH (LLL),
ACCOMPANIED BY EMBASSY SCICOUNS, VISITED FUSION RESEARCH
LABORATORIES OF OSAKA AND NAGOYA UNIVERSITIES AUG. 3-4.
PRIMARY FUNCTION OF VISIT WAS TO ASCERTAIN PROGRESS OF
LASER FUSION WORK FROM NON-PROLIFERATION POINT OF VIEW.
WORK AT OSAKA ON LASER ISOTOPE SEPARATION WAS NOT SHOWN TO
VISITORS. HAYES AND KAVANAGH CAN BRIEF INTERESTED PARTIES
ON DETAILS OF VISITS TO LABORATORIES. PURPOSE OF THIS
MESSAGE IS REPORT ON SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH LABORA-
TORY DIRECTORS ON POTENTIAL FOR U.S.-JAPAN COOPERATION ON
FUSION.

2. AT OSAKA U., DR. CHIYOE YAMANAKA, DIRECTOR OF LASER
FUSION LAB., WAS PRINCIPAL HOST. HE IS WELL KNOWN TO U.S.
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LASER FUSION RESEARCHERS AND HAS BEEN TO BOTH LLL AND LASL
A NUMBER OF TIMES. HE HAS AN AMERICAN SCIENTIST FROM
LLL IN RESIDENCE AT HIS LAB. DR. YAMANAKA WAS UNDER
IMPRESSION THAT REASON FOR VISIT TO HIS FACILITIES BY THE
AMERICANS HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH SETTING UP U.S.-JAPAN
COOPERATION IN FUSION RESEARCH IN ACCORDANCE WITH FUKUDA
INITIATIVE, AND HE WAS OBVIOUSLY DISAPPOINTED TO LEARN

OTHERWISE. HE STATED BELIEF THAT TWO COUNTRIES COULD PROFIT SUBSTANTIALLY THROUGH CLOSER COOPERATION IN LASER FUSION AND HOPED THAT THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE INCLUDED IN JOINT PROGRAM. HE SAID THAT HE PERSONALLY HAD NOT BEEN CONSULTED BY GOJ IN DEVELOPMENT OF FUSION PROPOSAL AND HE WAS QUITE UNAWARE OF HOW TALKS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES WERE PROGRESSING. HE NOTED THAT AT LIVERMORE HE HAD BEEN GIVEN ACCESS TO LASER TECHNOLOGY BUT NOT TO TECHNOLOGY OF MICROSPHERE IMPLOSION--THE REASONS FOR WHICH HE UNDERSTOOD CLEARLY, ALTHOUGH HIS OWN FACILITY WAS IMPLoding D-T MICROSPHERES AND OBTAINING MEASURABLE NEUTRON YIELDS. AS EXAMPLE OF HOW COOPERATION COULD BE EXPANDED, HE PROPOSED THAT SILICATE GLASS USED IN SHIVA LASER BE REPLACED BY NEW JAPANESE PHOSPHATE GLASS, WHICH WOULD INCREASE POWER OF SHIVA BY FACTOR OF TWO. PHOSPHATE GLASS IS IN USE IN GEKKO GLASS LASER SYSTEM AT OSAKA. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT COOPERATION BE EXPANDED GRADUALLY, STARTING WITH EXCHANGE OF SCIENTISTS. YAMANAKA ASKED VISITORS TO BRING UP POSSIBILITY OF LASER FUSION COOPERATION WITH USG AND GOJ.

3. AT NAGOYA UNIVERSITY, SIMILAR SITUATION PREVAILED. PROF. KAZUO TAKAYAMA, DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTE OF PLASMA PHYSICS, ALSO BROUGHT UP SUBJECT OF INCREASED COOPERATION IN FUSION. HIS INSTITUTE IS NO LONGER WORKING ON LASER FUSION PER SE (WORK INITIALLY THERE HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO OSAKA), BUT HIS INSTITUTE HAS A VARIETY OF MAPNETIC CONFINEMENT DEVICES UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR IN OPERATION. TAKAYAMA'S ENGLISH IS POOR AND HE HAS NOT BEEN TO US IN RECENT YEARS. HE ALSO EXPRESSED GREAT INTEREST IN EXPANDING FUSION COOPERATION AND ASKED SCICOUNS TO TALK TO MR. AZUMA OF BANK OF TOKYO, THE MAN WHO HAD FIRST BROACHED SUBJECT TO OSTP OR DOE PRIOR TO PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

4. BOTH OSAKA AND NAGOYA LABS HAD BEEN VISITED IN PREVIOUS WEEK BY PROF. DAWSON OF UCLA, WHO HAD BEEN INVITED TO JAPAN AT GOJ EXPENSE TO HELP IN CREATING DETAILED PLANNING FOR U.S.-JAPAN COOPERATION.

5. EMBASSY WISHES TO EXPRESS ITS DEEP APPRECIATION TO USG AGENCIES AND INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN PREPARATION OF STATE 197386, WHICH PROVIDES EMBASSY WITH CURRENT STATE OF PLAY ON IMPLEMENTATION OF FUKUDA INITIATIVE. CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY ABE TOLD REPORTERS ON AUG. 5 THAT U.S. AND JAPAN HAD AGREED TO ESTABLISH HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE TO PLAN S&T COOPERATION, BUT THAT TIME AND PLACE OF FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING HAD NOT YET BEEN SET. MANSFIELD

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